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District of Arizona*

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GILA RIVER MAN SENTENCED TO 150 MONTHS IN PRISON FOR CASINO SHOOTING INCIDENT

TUCSON – On December 4, 2006, U.S. District Judge David M. Bury sentenced Alex Jackson, 29, of Tucson, to 150 months in prison. Jackson, an enrolled member of the Gila River Indian Tribe, pleaded guilty on September 16, 2006 to charges of attempted robbery and use of a firearm in relation to a crime of violence.

On August 5, 2005, at about 5:30 a.m., Jackson entered the Desert Diamond Casino on the Tohono O'odham Indian Nation, where he had previously worked. Jackson proceeded to the casino cashier's cage and fired one round from a 12 gauge shotgun into the ceiling of a caged area occupied by three casino employees. The employees fell to the ground and one of the employees was slightly wounded by the buckshot. After firing the shot, Jackson demanded money and thrust a bag through the window of the cage. The casino employees, who were hiding from Jackson, refused to give him the money he demanded. Jackson then departed the casino and was located shortly thereafter.

The judge sentenced the defendant to 120 months for the use of the firearm and to a consecutive term of 30 months for the attempted robbery of the casino.

The investigation in this case was conducted by Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Tohono O'odham Police department. The prosecution was handled by David Paul Flannigan, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson.

CASE NUMBER: CR-05-1708-TUC
RELEASE NUMBER: 2006-255(Jackson)

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